IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A liner/insulator, comprising:

a uniform base layer of fibrous material; and

a plurality of ribs of fibrous material projecting outwardly and positioned exterior to said uniform base layer, said plurality of ribs being thermally bonded to said base layer, wherein said base layer of fibrous material and said plurality of ribs of fibrous material are selected from the group consisting of (a) thermoplastic polymer staple fibers and thermoplastic bicomponent fibers, (b) glass staple fibers and glass bicomponent fibers, (c) glass staple fibers and thermoplastic bicomponent fibers and (d) a combination of (a), (b) and (c).

2. Canceled

3. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said fibrous material is selected from the group consisting of polyester, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, glass fibers, natural fibers and mixtures thereof.

4. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are spaced apart at least about 0.25 inches.

5. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs extend parallel to one another.

6.-7. Canceled

8. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are between about 0.5 to about 3.0 inches wide.

9. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said liner/insulator has a percent wet compression of between about 15 to about 18 percent.

10. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said liner/insulator has a percent dry compression of between about 16 to about 21 percent.

11. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said liner/insulator has a percent dry wet recovery of between about 85 to about 87.5 percent.

12. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said liner/insulator is an automotive undercarpet.

13. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are made of scrap fibrous material.

14. Canceled

15. (Original) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said liner/insulator is a nonlaminate.

16.-46. Canceled

47. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 1, wherein said fibrous material is formed of glass staple fibers and glass bicomponent fibers.

48.-51 Canceled

52. (Previously Presented) A liner/insulator comprising:

a base layer of fibrous material; and

a plurality of fibrous ribs formed of cubed fibrous material, said fibrous ribs extending from and thermally bonded to said base layer.

53. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said base layer and said plurality of ribs are formed of materials selected from the group consisting of (a) thermoplastic polymer staple fibers and thermoplastic bicomponent fibers, (b) glass staple fibers and glass bicomponent fibers, (c) glass staple fibers and thermoplastic bicomponent fibers and (d) a combination of (a), (b) and (c).

54. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 53, wherein at least one of said plurality of cubed, fibrous ribs and said base layer is formed of glass staple fibers and glass bicomponent fibers.

55. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said fibrous material is selected from the group consisting of polyester, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, glass fibers, natural fibers and mixtures thereof

56. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said plurality of ribs extend parallel to one another.

57.-58.

59. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said plurality of ribs are made of scrap fibrous material.

60. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said base layer is tuned to provide improved acoustical properties and said plurality of ribs provide strength to said liner/insulator.

61. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said plurality of ribs extend parallel to one another and are grouped in sets.

62. (Previously Presented) The liner/insulator of claim 52, wherein said base layer is a uniform base layer.